

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Myers



ORIENT OF FLORIDA

SUMMER 2022

WWW.SCOTTISHRITEFORTMYERS.COM



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MESSAGE FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE



Hi my Brothers all!

It's hard to believe, but 2022 is almost half over. We have had a more normal year, but still exciting things are happening. We had a Valley picnic in February. We capitalized on the opportunity to have the Sovereign Grand Commander consecrate the reunion class at the Spring

Scottish Rite Reunion in the old Valley of Tampa 60,000 sqft building. Meals are getting back to normal, with buffet style serving. The remainder of the year programs are pretty much set. Having said that, we are still looking to do the following (among other things!):

- Have all attending Brothers send an email to vofmrsvp@gmail.com if they plan on attending any monthly meetings. This is to help plan meals, resulting in less waste and better promotion of what meals we will be serving.
- Have a "Block Party" at Tropical Lodge Saturday, Nov 12th to raise funds for the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, which helps support the local (Ft Myers) John's Hopkins All Children's Clinic.
- Promoting the Fall reunion set for Oct 8 and Oct 9.
- Obtaining cast members and practicing for the "Traitor Drama", hopefully to be presented either late this year or early next year.

Please join us for our Consistory, Council, and Lodge of Perfection meetings the rest of this year. Looking forward to seeing you!

Fraternally,

III. Clay W. Taylor, 33°

Personal Representative

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, Jun 15 7:30 pm	Council of Kadosh Flag Presentation
Wednesday, July 20 7:30 pm	Consistory 21st Degree
Wednesday, Aug 17 7:30 pm	Consistory 6th & 7th Degrees
Wednesday, Sept 21 7:30 pm	Consistory TBD
Saturday/Sunday Oct 8 and 9	Fall Reunion
Wednesday, Oct 19 7:30 pm	Lodge of Perfection Feast of Tishri

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

III. Clay W. Taylor, 33°

Personal Representative

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III. Fred Wright, 33°

General Secretary

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Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH

General Treasurer—All Bodies

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III. Ben Flynn, 33°

Almoner—Serving Deputy & all Bodies

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Hon. Ken Jordan, 32° KCCH

Representative—Scottish Rite Foundation

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III. David Wolffe, 33°

Organist Serving all Bodies

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The Mission of Scottish Rite Freemasonry in the Orient of Florida

To be the premier fraternity of Men of Integrity and Good Character by providing opportunities for personal growth, leadership skills, education and social interaction based on the values of friendship, charity, patriotism, tolerance and a belief in a Supreme Being. To that end we commit to making a positive impact on mankind, promoting our community and providing value to the Masonic fraternity.

FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S DESK



The spring reunion was a success. Being held in Tampa, 13 candidates were recipients of the Royal Secret. We currently have 4 to be in the Fall Reunion, with 5 transfers (2 in state and 3 out of state). I would like for all members to help with getting additional members by providing petitions to our fellow brothers. We just need to vote on the new members.

Hopefully everyone knows Illustrious Augie Luce; he has received the highest honor from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, the Daniel Coxe Medal. Brother Kurt Wagner will present to Augie at his house on behalf of the Grand Master of New Jersey. Augie mentored many of the Grand Staff and was very active in the Scottish Rite. He was Chaplain of Tropical Lodge for quite sometime. A brief story about Augie: He was a buck sergeant in the 35th infantry division. He landed in Normandy on D-Day. He fought in the breakout at St. Lo and then across France with the 3rd Army under General Patton. On December 17th, 1944 Augie was part one of the greatest redeployments in military history. The 3rd division disengaged, pivoted 90 degrees and raced North to relieve the 101st Airborne Division in Bastogne. While advancing toward the village on Christmas Eve he was wounded. His fighting days were over and he returned to the United States. Augie was a pretty good marksman and won many a turkey shoot after the war (this information was provided by M.:W.: Robert V. Moncelli, Grand Master of Masons of New Jersey). Ill. Augie will be 99 in December.

The Guest Speaker for the Consistory in May was Brother David Ray, retired FBI agent. The speaker for June will be Ill. Chuck Morgan from Baton Rouge, LA. He will be speaking about a submarine that was used in the Civil War. This should also prove to be very interesting. We welcome suggestions for speakers, so if you think of anyone who would/could provide insightful topics please let us know. The July Consistory will be a closed meeting where, under the direction of Honorable John Herman, we will see the 21st Degree, so bring your passports to be stamped this degree.

Ill. Clay Taylor, Honorable Ken Jordan and I presented a plaque to the Johns Hopkins All Childrens Clinic. This is their 60th year anniversary and their work with the children will touch your heart. The directors of the clinic will be attending one of our meetings in the near future.

We are in the process of restarting the Lake "O" Scottish Rite Club under the direction of Honorable Ken Jordan We have had our the first two meetings at Labelle Lodge. Thank you to Worshipful Master Bill Maddox..

.That's all I have and as Beau Bierce would say. " I am out of material" God Bless have a safe, healthy Summer and best of all happy trails. See you at our next Consistory Meeting.

P.S. Remember by attending the meetings is how you add to your double eagle award.

May God bless us all! Happy and safe trails!

Ill, Fred Wright, 33°
General Secretary



At a previous meeting, Brother Orrin Davison was presented his award for achieving 50 years. Congratulations Brother!



FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER



Brothers: As you all may be aware, the Stock Market has been going through a volatile period, one day up the next down. The only good news is that, although the value of our investment have diminished, we are still making money. So far this year we have approx. \$15,000 in our cash accounts.

Apart from the Stock Market we are maintaining a positive cash balance in our operating account.

Caps off to our chefs who have managed to provide us with good meals at our meetings whilst keeping the costs at reasonable levels.

The Supreme Council has announced an increase in the Per Capita Tax of \$5.00 starting in January 2024, The increase will be spread over the following 5 years: 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028 of \$1.00 per year. Our current Per Capita rate is \$30.00 per year.

To our Perpetual and Life Members:

Once again, the Executive Board will be reaching out to you our Perpetual and Life Members of the Valley to voluntarily, donate toward the Per Capita Taxes. For those who have donated over the years we thank you and look forward to your continued loyalty and support..

Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH
Treasurer

KNIGHTS COMMANDER OF THE COURT OF HONOR (KCCH)



Good day Masters of the Royal Secret and Brothers all. I hope all is well with you and yours,

Well, Summer is upon us and I feel it's going to be a hot one. With summer comes the preparations for the Fall Reunion. Are you involved yet? Do you have a part in a degree? Do you know what goes on behind the scenes? I put this out there because before you know the reunion is here and there is a lot of work to be done to pull this off.

So, do you have any questions? Do you want to get involved or do you just want to know more about the Scottish Rite? Do you see those brothers with the red hats? Pln one down, then sit with him or them and ask away. We are here to assist you on your journey in the Rite. We welcome all the new members as well as transfers to our Valley.

I hope to see you all at our dinners and meetings

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Hon. Ed Sanchez, 32° KCCH
Commander



CONSISTORY — MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER OF KADOSH



It has been an honor and privilege to serve you this year. We started out with a bang; but unfortunately, as most of you now know, I fell ill some time back. As of this day, I still don't know what the problem was; but I am sure glad I had an excellent back up team.

We are hoping that the agenda layout for the rest of the year goes smoothly. It is my hope that you give next year's team the same support that you are giving me this year.

Thank you all for your support.

Fraternally,
Hon. Tom Elliot, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh



COUNCIL OF KADOSH — MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



Brethren,

A dedicated RSVP email has been established for ALL Valley of Fort Myers meals. With growing food costs it's imperative that we start using this email address and RSVP for meals. There will be a list of those that have sent a RSVP at the check-in table. Only those that have sent a RSVP will be guaranteed a meal. Please help the kitchen crew and ensure YOU have a meal.

The RSVP email is vofmrsvp@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!

Hon. Bobby Lippek, 32° KCCH
Commander



Did you know?

If you purchase merchandise through <https://smile.amazon.com/> a portion of your purchase price is donated to a charity of your choosing. For example, as of March 2022, Amazon has donated \$1,321.94 to the **Scottish Rite Foundation Southern Jurisdiction USA Inc.**

CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX — MESSAGE FROM THE WISE MASTER KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREW (KSA) — MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST KNIGHT



The Seventeenth Degree in the Chapter of Rose Croix is designated *Knight of the East and West*. The degree centers around the wandering neophyte, an earnest seeker for Truth, and is an indispensable prelude to the Eighteenth Degree. It inspires the hope that the Day of Truth will dawn at last, that the knowledge and worship of the One Living and True God shall spread from East to West and that one Spiritual Brotherhood shall extend across the world.

Who was Saint Andrew?

Saint Andrew was the first apostle chosen by Jesus and happens to be the patron Saint of Scotland. Saint Andrew has been celebrated in Scotland for over a thousand years, with feasts being held in his honor as far back as the year 1000 AD. However, it wasn't until 1320, when Scotland's independence was declared with the signing of The Declaration of Arbroath, that he officially became Scotland's patron saint.

John Reilly, 32° KSA
Wise Master of Rose Croix & First Knight of the Council for Knights of St. Andrew



LODGE OF PERFECTION — MESSAGE FROM THE VENERABLE MASTER



Greetings from the Lodge of Perfection!

Our stated meeting for the Lodge of Perfection is in October. The meal that evening will be a Jewish meal, with Honorable Bobby Lippek doing the cooking.

Worshipful Bill Maddox and me are still the only Lodge of Perfection officers that have been coming out to the Executive Board and Stated Meetings. If possible, I really would like to see other officers to come out and join us.

Stay Safe and God Bless,
Bob Sweet, 32° KSA
Venerable Master



2022 Elected Officers for Valley of Fort Myers AASR

Executive Board voting members: Elected Valley Officers, Foundation Representative (unless otherwise included), and 4 elected general members, including KCCH Commander (unless otherwise included) and KSA First Knight (unless otherwise included)

Consistory



Master of Kadosh*

Hon. Tom Elliot, 32° KCCH
 Phone: (239) 793-3467
 Email: capttom3@aol.com

Prior*	Hon. Kevin Gourley, 32° KCCH
Preceptor*	Hon. Acey Edgemon, 32° KCCH
Chancellor*	Ill. Chuck Machel, 33°

Council of Kadosh



Commander*

Hon. Bobby Lippek, 32° KCCH
 Phone: (239) 600-9084
 Email: 24ddgm2021@gmail.com

1 st Lt. Commander*	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA
2 nd Lt. Commander*	Bro. Bob Zimmerman, 32°
Chancellor*	Bro. John Troia, 32°
Orator*	Hon. Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH

Chapter of Rose Croix



Wise Master*

Bro. John Reilly, 32° KSA
 Phone: (239) 961-3104
 Email: j.reilly1956@live.com

Senior Warden*	Bro. Mike Meehan, 32°
Junior Warden*	Hon. Ed Sanchez, 32° KCCH
Orator*	Bro. Jonas Seda, 32°

Lodge of Perfection



Venerable Master*

Bro. Bob Sweet, 32° KSA
 Phone: (239) 303-9989
 Email: Patandbob592@centurylink.net

Senior Warden*	Bro. Daniel Van Alstine, 32°
Junior Warden*	Bro. Bill Maddox, 32°
Orator*	Bro. John Donohoo, 32°

Knights of St. Andrew



First Knight**

Bro. John Reilly, 32° KSA
 Phone: (239) 961-3104
 Email: j.reilly1956@live.com

Knight Grand Councilor**	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA
Knight Chief of Staff**	Bro. Bob Sweet, 32° KSA
Knight Bursar**	Bro. Wilhelm Llanillo, 32° KSA
Knight Keeper of the Realm**	Bro. Corbin, Kidd, 32° KSA
Knight Grand Orator	Bro. Barry Denton, 32° KSA
Knight of the Watch	Bro. Roger Geltz, 32° KSA
Knight of Merriment	Bro. Brian Ferdon, 32° KSA
Keeper of Heraldry and Regalia	Bro. Clint Larkins, 32° KSA
Sentinel	Bro. James Rider, 32° KSA

Knight Commander of the Court of Honor



Commander**

Hon. Ed Sanchez, 32° KCCH
 Phone: (239) 878-0341
 Email: esanch320@gmail.com

1 st Lt. Commander**	Hon. John Herman, 32° KCCH
Secretary**	Hon. Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH

*Elected Valley Officers
 **Officers elected by the Group

